

REMARKS

Claims 6, 8, 12 and 14 are pending. Claims 6 and 8 have been amended. Claims 1-5, 7, 9-11 and 13 have been cancelled. No new matter is presented.

Claims 1, 4, 5 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyers, U.S. Patent 6,137,535, in view of Namiki, U.S. Patent 6,016,224. This rejection is moot in view of the foregoing claim amendments.

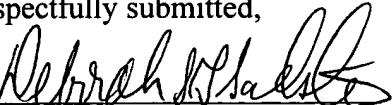
Claim 7 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyers, U.S. Patent 6,137,535, Namiki, U.S. Patent 6,016,224 and further in view of Waldern, U.S. PG-PUB #2001/0043163. This rejection is moot in view of the foregoing claim amendments.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 325772019100.

Dated: March 30, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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